



NOTES TOWARD AUDITIONS FOR LCT 1978

Dear friends, associates, prospective victims:

The auditions for LCT summer 1978 will be roughly the same, structurally, as they were for the 77 season. We have had some complaints about the procedures, but no really constructive alternatives have cropped up. We will all do our best to keep the auditions from seeming impersonal, etc.

Most of you know the 76 season. Once more: YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU, director S. Rotblatt; A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE, M. Van Landingham; BEATRICE & THE OLD MAN, Wendy Chapin; TINY ALICE, Tom Culp; a mystery play, director also mysterious; and DOCTOR FAUSTUS, director Peter Clough.

CASTS: YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU, STREETCAR, and TINY ALICE as in published texts. B & THE O.M. is 5 men 3 women: Beatrice, her stepmother Lucy; and Yvonne, who starts out as B.'s sister-in-law; the OLD MAN, his two sons: JAMES (who doubles as Columbo), and THEODORE; BILE, a thug/servant; and ORSON, a lawyer. Peter Clough, director of DR. FAUSTUS, is looking for three specific roles: FAUSTUS (male), WAGNER (male, comic) and MEPHISTOPHELES (male or female), in addition to a chorus of 5 men, 5 women, which will play all other roles.

SCRIPTS: All published except B & THE O.M. The recommended text for DR. FAUSTUS is that edited by P.H. Kocher, of which I saw several copies at the DBS. This is only recommended because it is substantially shorter than most published versions, based on the so-called "A-text." It doesn't really matter, as typescript texts will probably be prepared, as we did with 'TIS FITTY last year. As for BEATRICE & THE OLD MAN, scripts are available from the author on payment of a \$5.00 deposit, returnable if you are cast, or if you return the script. This may sound like extortion, but it is in fact the only way that PROVOS can afford to get the scripts xeroxed in quantity. Of course, should you choose to keep the script and donate \$5 to PROVOS, the author will autograph your script free of charge.

AUDITIONS: The 13th and 14th will be general auditions for all directors, limited to ten minutes per person. Anyone interested in FAUSTUS is asked to bring in a short classical monolog, and a short acapella song (sp?). The director wants

The League Of Theatre Artists

Michael C. Van Landingham,
Executive Director
Oakley Hall III,
Artistic Director

Thomas F. Culp,
Executive Producer
Paul W. Bennett,
Director of Funding & Planning

• Lexington Conservatory Theatre
• Provos
• Ubique
• Artists Theatre
• Skill Share
• Video Wing
• Sign Drama

to hear what you sound like, and as FAUSTUS is full of both verse and singing, this seems reasonable. Anyone interested in STREETCAR is asked to bring in a short monolog, preferably "dramatic" from a modern or contemporary American work. Speeches from STREETCAR are not specifically discouraged, though the director might get tired of them after a long day. Those are the only specific requests from directors. Otherwise, we would like to know what roles you are interested in, to what extent you would ideally be involved at Lexington this summer, whether you might want to do other things than act, etcetera. The usual stuff.

N.B.: You do not have to do any particular thing for the auditions. I am conveying here only the specific requests of the specific directors who had specific requests: short classical monolog (verse ability), short song (tunefulness and vocal range), and American speech (colloquial passion). Please bear in mind that some of ~~us~~ us know some of your work. Any time that we do know your work, then you will obviously not be judged solely on the merits of your audition, good or bad. If you choose to piss on the general audition and hope to ride your ~~your~~ ^{try} laurels straight in to the call-backs, feel free to fry. ~~Any-~~ one, however, interested in working with Mr. Clough or Mr. Culp might be ill-advised to do this.

CALL-BACKS: Call-backs will be held on the weekend of the 15-16 April. We will notify you if you are called back absolutely as soon as we can.

LOCATION: All auditions will take place at the American Lyric Theatre Workshop, 236 West 78 (just east of B'Way), Thursday 13 through Sunday 16 April. If you cannot make it to this time or place, you must deal strongly with the individual directors and with me.

SCHEDULEING & INFORMATION: will be handled by Kristin Joliff, 874-7423.

BY THE WAY: please bring a current pic/res with you when you come in. We need this stuff for PR, etc. Also, we just love bulging files. And please make sure we have your current address and phone #s. Otherwise we get harrassed and confused and drink too much.

FRIENDS: If you want to recommend someone for LCT 78 (spelling deteriorating fast), have them call Kristin for a general audition slot. Bear in mind that LCT management (so-called) was pretty happy with the LCT 77 company (pretty happy! the pigs were lucky to get you.) and are not quite beating the bushes for new blood. So if your friend is not special in some way, you might consider saving us all the bother. On the other hand, if you think your friend is pretty special (and a bit of a masochist), please give us all the pleasure of seeing him/her/it.

I think that's all. I wish I could say that we all hate auditions as much as you do, but it's just not true: we actually love them.

vr friend the autistic director

Adel (794-8565)